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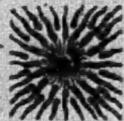
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NATIONAL CONVENTION SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

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PRINTER

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

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COLLINSVILLE, ILL.

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS.

With the fall of the gavel wielded by National Secretary, Henry Kuhn, the Eleventh National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party was called to order in this city, at 9 a.m., Saturday, July 2, at the Grand Central Palace. A large and enthusiastic gathering of S. L. P. men and women were in the hall when the convention opened, whose appearance constituted a display of physical and mental vigor that was inspiring indeed to the observer with hope and confidence in the future of the only genuine revolutionary movement of the working class as manifested by the Socialist Labor Party.

The convention hall was an ideal one. High and white in ceiling, wide and long, decorated in green, with hanging curtains in red at the windows, carpeted, and furnished with hardwood benches on the side, and with raised canopied platforms at the end, the delegates occupying the center of the floor, each seated at small folding tables, amid plenty of light with the spectators present, an impressive picture.

Unlike the alleged Socialists' national convention, held at Chicago recently, it was predominantly working class. The sky-pilots, fraudulent contract-making and labor secretariat lawyers, hour-gouls capitalist politicians, reverend wife-swappers, mining stock peddlers and other persons with "idiosyncrasies" of a like character, together with the graft-seeking supporters of seab-harding unionism of the A. F. of L. type, or any other type, were conspicuous by their absence. Banquets to deify and hoot the political values of certain personages were cut out, as were time-consuming speeches and procedure. Practical accomplishments in the interest of the working class was the desire and the result. Finally perfect candor regarding conditions and the outlook, and hope, confidence and enthusiasm prevailed.

The convention was composed of 41 delegates and four alternates, representing 18 States and three fraternal delegates, two from the S. T. and L. A. and one from Section Toronto, Canada. They were as follows:

Chas. H. Chase, of Colorado; Meyer Stodel, Connecticut; W. W. Cox and Olive M. Johnson, of Illinois; Hugh R. Richards, Indiana; James Doyle, Kentucky; Robert W. Stevens, Maryland; M. T. Berry, James A. Brennan, Morris E. Rutherford, John Sweeney and Thos. F. Brennan, of Massachusetts; Frank A. Bohn, Peter Friesema, Jr., Melko Meyer and Herman Richter, of Michigan; Chas. W. Brandborg, of Minnesota; Wm. Bilsbury, of Missouri; A. J. Boland, and

loving committees were elected: On Rules and Regulations—B. Reinstein, F. Paschone, H. Richter, G. Herrschaft and J. A. Bresnahan. Committee on Constitution, W. W. Cox, Wm. Bilsbury, Melko Meyer, Paul Dinger and B. Reinstein. On Platform and Resolutions, D. De Leon, John Sweeney, Olive M. Johnson, P. Friesema and R. W. Gaffney.

When permanent organization was affected, F. R. Wilke, of Wisconsin, was elected chairman for the day and Frank A. Bohn, of Michigan, vice-chairman. Charles H. Chase, of Colorado, was made permanent secretary of the convention. Samuel Winauer, member of Section New York, S. L. P., was chosen to act in the capacity of Sergeant-at-arms and page during the session.

A committee on the attitude of the Party toward trades unions was elected consisting of delegates Corrigan, Berry and Cox. One on Appeals and Grievances, Stevens, of Maryland, Boland, of New Jersey and Doyle, of Kentucky. The electing of a committee on Party Press was deferred until after the hearing of the reports of the National Executive Committee and the Party's Editor which was to begin after the noon recess. An auditing committee comprising Leitner, De Lee and Friesema was elected. One on Mileage was made up of delegates Bohn, Brandborg and Muller.

Messages of congratulation were received from the 10th A. D. S. L. P., New York, the Progressive Socialist Club and the Ladies' Branch of the same, and from revolutionary members of the Exchange Literary Society, which were greeted with applause.

The reading of the report of the National Executive Committee took up the greater part of the afternoon session. The report is begun in this issue, beginning on second page.

After the close of the report the matter of the eligibility of L. A. Boland was again brought up as a result of a motion of John J. Duffy of Rhode Island, made on the theory that the report of the credential committee was not sufficiently thorough or complete. F. Paschone explained briefly the attitude of Section Troy in the matter and Boland was given the floor to speak in his own behalf. While Boland was speaking, six o'clock, the hour to which the hour to which the hall had been engaged, arrived and the convention adjourned to meet again at 9 a.m. on the morrow. The various committees meet in the evening at the headquarters of Section New York, in the Daily People Building, to discuss and act upon the duties assigned to them.

Delegates who were not elected to committee work spent the evening in the company of local comrades, getting acquainted with the city or taking part in agitation work.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION, SUNDAY, JULY 3.

The second day's session was called to order by Secretary Charles H. Chase at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

The chairman and vice-chairman chosen for the day were August Gilhaus of New York and Frank Leitner of Texas. Chairman Gilhaus, in a few brief words, brought the convention down to business in short order. The first matter taken up was the eligibility of L. A. Boland of Troy, to a seat in the convention, the assemblage went into committee of the whole to consider the matter. Boland was requested to proceed with his statement. The discussion to be under a fifteen minute rule, Frank Paschone presenting the views of Section Troy in the case. A general discussion ensued after which the convention decided to permit the seating of Boland as a delegate. The following resolutions were presented and referred to the committee on constitution: One by L. A. Boland, to the effect that all members of the party be required to be wage workers. One from P. De Lee, to the effect that a clause be inserted providing for the abolition of the custom of allowing sections to obtain literature on credit from the Labor News Company. A resolution handed in by Hugh R. Richards of Indiana, requesting the convention to definitely declare its attitude on the subject of the Materialist Conception of History, was referred to the committee on resolutions.

The credentials committee reported receipt of the credentials of the above-named delegates, and recommended that the delegates named be seated and that the alternates and fraternal delegates be given seat and voice in the convention. Upon the acceptance of the committee's report, a question arose as to the eligibility of L. A. Boland, of Troy, N. Y., and his credential was referred back to the committee to report later. The committee retired, took evidence and returned with the recommendation that Boland be not seated but that he be given the opportunity to speak in the event of the matter of his position being brought up later in the convention.

In the interim of waiting for the report on the Boland credential the fol-

lowing committees were elected: On printed a sufficient number of copies of each resolution recommended by them for the consideration of the convention, so as to enable them to distribute copies to the delegates at the session previous to that at which they were to be reported for action, and thus give everyone a chance to study the various questions before acting upon them. This recommendation was concurred in.

The report of the party editor, Daniel De Leon, was the next business called for, and this occupied a considerable portion of the afternoon session. The report was lengthy and comprehensive and in beginning it De Leon stated his reasons for presenting it in the manner he did. He referred to the extreme importance of the matters involved, stating that the ownership of the party press by the party itself, produces a peculiar situation requiring special action. Because of this ownership, De Leon explained, the questions of the disposition, management, attitude, etc., of the party press tend toward the party constitution and look to the necessitating of changes therein and also in the arranging of the form of the N. E. C. and its relation to the institution of the party press. The ownership of the plant and the direction of the policy of the party press by the party, he declared, reflect themselves upon the organic law of the party. Hence, this importance of dealing with the matter in the most thorough manner. The experience upon which to base our judgment for guidance in future action is already at hand. The party has made it on one hand with its own press and the Kangaroos and Social Democrats on the other, have made some for us with their privately owned papers. Thus, there is an ample fund of knowledge upon which to draw in the work of deciding upon the details of the course to be pursued.

Further on De Leon spoke of the so-called Connolly matter, meaning the discussion on Wages, Marriage and the Church, initiated by James Connolly. In opening this question, De Leon declared that properly speaking there was no such thing as a "Connolly matter," but there was a duty on the part of the party editor who was elected to voice the sentiments of the party membership in the carrying out of which the personality of that editor or of Connolly or anyone else had no part whatever. De Leon explained the origin and development of the discussion and presented all the documents in the matter, including those which had not been published, pointing out from their incorrect and misleading contents why those unpublished had been allowed to remain so up to now.

After De Leon concluded a committee of five to investigate and report on the party press was elected. The committee consists of Frank R. Wilke of Wisconsin; Thomas F. Brennan of Massachusetts; Hugh R. Richards of Indiana; Frank A. Bohn of Michigan and John D. Goerke of Ohio.

It was decided to hold no night session, for the double reason that a third session would only wear out the delegates and unfit them for knocking down to work on time in the morning and besides would be unfair to those who had committee work to do in preparation for the morrow and would thus be unable to take part in the deliberations. After the vote on this had been taken, a letter from the California S. E. C. was presented, regretting inability to send delegate, expressing heartfelt wishes for success, and asking for a decision as to what course to follow in the event of legal complications preventing the membership in any State from retaining the party designation, and in such case, what name it would be advisable to adopt during a campaign. This was referred to the committee on constitution.

A resolution presented by F. R. Wilke of Wisconsin, was also referred to the constitution committee. Wilke's resolution was introduced for the better facilitation of business in future sessions, prohibiting delegates from speaking more than once to the same motion and also providing for the previous questions on a two-thirds vote. It was referred to the committee on rules and regulations.

The committee on Party Platform submitted the draft of a platform for consideration and it was voted to order it published in the Daily People next day and that the question of its adoption or rejection be the first order of business. The report was concurred in. The committee recommended in the matter of a

THIRD DAY'S SESSION, MONDAY, JULY 4.

Interest was chiefly centered in the discussion of the Party Platform and the matter of instructions to the Party's delegates to the International Congress at Amsterdam, at this session. After the convention was called to order, Hugh R. Richards of Indiana and James A. Bresnahan of Massachusetts, were elected chairman and vice-chairman respectively.

The adoption of a Party Platform was the first order of business and the draft submitted by the committee was taken up and discussed paragraph by paragraph. The meaning and interpretation of each were thoroughly debated and finally a few minor corrections having been made, the Platform was adopted as a whole.

The Platform, as adopted, appears at the top of this page.

The debate on the Platform took up the time until noon and following its adoption, the committee on resolutions reported on the matter of instructing the delegates to the Amsterdam Congress. One recommendation was

"That the N. E. C. be authorized to issue credentials to the International Congress to Party members in good standing who may be in Europe at the time of the Congress and are ready to represent the Party."

This was concurred in. The advisability or otherwise of instructing the delegates was then thoroughly discussed. The prevailing sentiment seemed to be that owing to the peculiar conditions connected with the Congress, and the unknown contingencies, now impossible to foresee, that may arise, the delegates would need a certain amount of latitude as representatives of the S. L. P. in guiding their actions on the situation presented to them. A substitute resolution was offered by Bilsbarrow, which stated that should the International Congress declare for a policy along the lines of the so-called Kautsky resolution our delegates withdraw from said Congress and immediately publish their reasons therefor. This was not accepted, the convention finally voting to accept the resolution submitted by the committee, which were as follows:

"Resolved, That the delegates of the Socialist Labor Party of America to the International Congress at Amsterdam, in 1904, use all the influence and effort possible to make the honest comrades of the less developed countries comprehend the enormous differences in economic and political conditions, for example, in Germany and the United States, and to secure the repudiation of the Kautsky Resolution; and to receive the assurance of the elimination from future International Congresses and other representative bodies of the movement of delegates and representatives of Kangaroos, Millerandism, Hyndmanism, etc., and the acceptance of representatives only of the class conscious Socialist Labor Party of the respective countries; and, be it further

"Resolved, That as to the matter of possible withdrawal or not from the convention the Party's delegation be allowed the latitude of their own judgment as officers of the Socialist Labor Party."

This business disposed of, a number of resolutions were submitted and referred to the proper committees. One from Melko Meyer looking toward making it mandatory to publish in the Party Press, communications submitted by members, the same to be followed where necessary by a criticism showing where such articles erred or deviated from Party principle or logic. Another from the same delegate opposing the raising of dues. One by August Gilhaus, proposing to establish a fund whereby members could contribute ten cents weekly for the purpose of carrying out a scheme to increase the circulation of the Weekly People.

By M. T. Berry of Massachusetts a resolution was introduced for the better facilitation of business in future sessions, prohibiting delegates from speaking more than once to the same motion and also providing for the previous questions on a two-thirds vote. It was referred to the committee on rules and regulations.

The committee on resolutions reported adversely in the matter of the Indiana resolution afloat the Materialist Conception of History, on the ground that the sense of the resolution was already being carried out as far as necessary. The report was concurred in. The committee recommended in the matter of a

PLATFORM

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We therefore call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

through Robert Stevens reported that it recommended the referring of the so-called McGlynn case to the State Executive Committee of California, which was concurred in.

After the passing of a motion made by D. De Leon of New York, instructing the delegates to be around sharp at nine in the morning, and another by J. J. Kinneally, reducing the noon recess to one hour in future, the convention adjourned at two p.m. Every one then went to the celebration of the Daily People's fourth anniversary at Glendale, except those who had committee work to perform and had to prepare for submitting reports when the convention re-assembled next day.

FOURTH DAY'S SESSION, TUESDAY, JULY 5.

John D. Goerke, of Ohio, was chosen chairman and D. Reider, of Pennsylvania, vice-chairman. Meyer Stodel, of Connecticut, was excused from further attendance, owing to his having received a message informing him of sickness in his family.

The committee on rules and regulations reported favorably on the resolution submitted by M. T. Berry on the previous day, and with some slight changes recommended its adoption. This was concurred in by the convention, the resolution as adopted providing that no person speak more than once on a motion and not more than ten minutes each, excepting the mover, who has the privilege of closing the debate. The putting of the previous question is provided for on a three-fourths vote.

The auditing committee requested information as to the extent of its duties as such and was instructed to the effect that it is empowered to audit all books including those of the Daily People, the Labor News Company, and the National Secretary.

The committee on the attitude of the Party towards Trades Unions presented its report and it was ordered printed in the Daily People for action to-day.

After a resolution submitted by Paul Dinger intended to confer upon future conventions the power to judge of the qualifications of their delegates in case of their eligibility being questioned, had been referred to the committee on constitution, it was decided to adjourn to 1 p.m. in order to give the various committees a chance to prepare reports.

Just as the convention reassembled a telegram was received from Section Lynn, Mass., sending congratulations, etc., to the National Convention. Later a similar message was received from Paul Kretlow, formerly of Chicago, but at present in Berlin, Germany.

The business of reports of committees and action upon same, occupied the time of the afternoon session. The Committee on Appeals and Grievances

On recommendation of the Committee on Constitution two Sections were added to Article II as follows:

"See 21 Acquaintance with the current affairs of the Party being essential for an intelligent discharge of the duties and responsibilities of Party membership, each Section shall relentlessly insist on each member being a regular reader of a weekly Party organ, except when none such is published in the language spoken by the member, and the

Continued on page 6

**Report of the National Executive Committee
to the Eleventh National Convention
of the Socialist Labor Party**

INTRODUCTORY.

When, in the year 1900, the report of the National Executive Committee was written, it could truly be said that the history of the Socialist Labor Party of the preceding four years had centered around its trade union policy, the working out of its uncompromising, revolutionary position, which scorned temporary advantage at the sacrifice of principle, and which, finally, culminated in the Kangaroo rebellion of 1890. That event clarified the atmosphere. The opportunist and the revolutionist parted company; the former to pursue the apparently easy road to mushroom growth, at the end of which lie demoralization and destruction, the latter content to travel the stormy, thorny and narrow path a truly militant movement is bound to pursue, preaching the class struggle in all its purity, encountering and overcoming difficulties undreamed of and, all the while, in the face of a storm of vilification and abuse, added to by internal disturbances, holding steadfastly to the line of action the S. L. P. had mapped out for itself.

In order to clearly comprehend the full scope of these difficulties, one must bear in mind that the industrial conditions in this country, during the main portion of the period covered by this report, made against rather than aided a movement such as ours. The Spanish-American war, with its resultant acquisition of Porto Rico and of the Philippine Islands, had given a great stimulus to American industry; American capitalism entered the field of international competition in a most formidable way, so that the "American invasion" became a standing topic in the press of every European country and a cause of fearful apprehension to every capitalist nation on the face of the globe. The outlet thus afforded to American products in the world's market went far to stimulate industry at home. The baneful effects of the capitalist system were softened, temporarily, the working class were more steadily employed, and, although increases of wages were on the whole more than offset by an increased cost of living all along the line, the general effect of such a condition of affairs was to blunt the edge of the revolutionary impulses of the great body of the working class and render them prone to acquiescence in a condition which they considered tolerable.

But to-day, in the year 1904, this condition of "unparalleled prosperity," to quote the language of the capitalist press, has come to an end and what we are now facing, and in fact are in the midst of, is an industrial depression the extent, duration, and general effects of which are apt to be in keeping with the high development of industrial capitalism of our day, and bid fair to outdo all we have experienced before. Thus, if during such a period of industrial activity ours was up-hill work, it should logically follow that under conditions the working class of the country are now facing, they will be more ready to receive and conceive the great truths the S. L. P. has to convey, albeit such a state of affairs imposes upon us new duties, greater effort and ever more earnest endeavor.

THE PARTY PRESS.

If, as has been said, the history of the S. L. P. for the four years preceding the national convention of 1900, centered around the Party's policy, it can with equal truth be said that its history of the four years just passed centers around its press. In the year 1900 on July 1, the Party had launched the Daily People, a most momentous undertaking, in the lap of which lay concealed struggles, trials and tribulations undreamed of by most, if not all, who were present at the paper's birth. So closely interwoven is that paper with all the Party has been since and is to-day, that the bulk of the space in this report must be given to set forth matters and events which, at first blush, may seem to belong under other heads, yet upon closer scrutiny will be found to have flown from the fact that we had a daily paper such as it is, and such as it could and had to be under the conditions prevailing.

The convention of 1900, held less than a month prior to the launching of the Daily People, had to deal with the form of administration to be given to the paper. It did so under the shadow of the legal complications then existing, which had resulted in an injunction against the members of the N. E. C., obtained by the Volkssitzung corporation. This state of affairs made it desirable to free the N. E. C. from any direct connection with the publication of the paper, lest it be drawn into the troubles the N. E. C. were involved in. A separate administrative

body, designated as the Board of Trustees and composed of three members, was created. These men were Hugo Vogt, Peter Fiebiger and Joseph H. Sauter. The starting of an S. L. P. daily paper necessarily had to be much of a leap in the dark. No one could tell to what extent the field was ripe for such a paper, nor could any one foretell the exact nature of the opposition that was to be encountered, all of which made it impossible to determine beforehand the scope on which it was best to start. It was soon found that the ripeness of the field had been entirely overestimated; that the opposition to the paper manifested itself in ways unforeseen, Labor Fakirs, Capitalist politicians and Kangaroo newsmen uniting to keep it off the newsstands, prevent the getting of advertising, or working for the withdrawal of such as had been secured; that, therefore, we could not hope to have either the circulation or the income hoped for at the beginning, and that to continue along the lines the paper had been planned was impossible. We had then eight pages daily and sixteen pages on Sunday, which implied a correspondingly large force in both the editorial and mechanical departments. We had also, for a time, full return granted to the news companies for the purpose of introducing the paper and that cost heavily.

This state of affairs was continued up to the election of 1900, and when the polls had closed and the vote had been counted, the question arose: what was to be done with the paper? The Board of Trustees called a conference of a number of members and submitted a plan of cutting the daily to four and the Sunday to eight pages, as well as abolishing all returns, thereby making possible the continuation of the paper. The proposition was agreed to and was carried out.

It must here be stated, because of the importance given to the circumstance by later developments, that, when the paper was started, the compensation of the Party members employed in two of the three departments of the paper, as well as the number of men employed, was fixed by the Board of Trustees in keeping with the high expectations then entertained and utterly out of keeping with what the paper could afford to pay. During the period from July 1 to November, 1900, the expenses of the paper so far exceeded its income, that the wages thus fixed could not be paid except for a very short time, and thus accumulated the wage claims which later on became so potent a weapon against the Party in the hands of men who had become its enemies—the very men who had created the situation that made for the accumulation of these claims. At the time the size of the paper was reduced, the enmity these men now harbor against the Party had not yet developed and had a suggestion made at that time been acted upon, many subsequent difficulties might have been saved the Party. The suggestion was that a meeting be called of all who had claims, that some take the lead and propose to relinquish these claims and take receipt from the Daily People for the amounts technically due as donations to the Party. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees and self-appointed manager of the paper, Hugo Vogt, to whom this suggestion was made, did not act upon it, except in a few instances and in these he secured relinquishments in such a form that enabled him, afterwards, to induce the very men who had released to place into his hands suits against the Party for the payment of these alleged claims.

In the course of time, it became ever more evident that the Board of Trustees was an institution whose efficiency as an administrative body left much to be wished for. This was emphasized by its selection of Hugo Vogt as the manager of the paper and secretary of the Board. Whatever services he might have been able to render as the secretary of the Board, as a manager of the paper he was an unmitigated failure. Unable to manage a large working force and permitting a reign of drunkenness and debauchery in the mechanical department and himself becoming tainted with that atmosphere, he moreover, made no effort to extend the business done, to enlist the co-operation of the Party organization, or to seek other means of providing an income. What was done under his regime in the direction of stirring up the Party organization to help build up circulation, had to be fairly forced upon him by men not on the Board, whose suggestions he would often meet with a shrug of the shoulders, saying that the membership knew as well as he could tell them that we needed circulation and that being so there was no

need of telling them. Thus conditions grew from bad to worse. The paper was run with a heavy deficit made up by means of loans, collections, festivals and the like, by which means thousands of dollars were gathered, very little of which could, however, be applied to payments on the machinery, but was mostly swallowed up to meet current expenses.

Then, as a further aggravation of an intolerable situation, came

THE HICKEY AFFAIR

Among the men on the editorial staff, when the Daily People was started, there was one Thomas A. Hickey. He had prior to that time, been employed as an organizer at various times by the N. E. C., as well as by several State committees. While out on the road, the Kangaroo papers used to refer to him as a drunkard, but in the absence of complaints on that line from our own people, little attention was paid to that. But, when we had him here, constantly under our eyes, it soon began to be known that he had been judged quite correctly by his present "comrades," the Kangaroos, and that our own men, for some reason had not kept us informed. Intoxicated with great frequency, too indolent to do the work he was engaged for, loud-mouthed, empty-headed and overbearing, he finally had to be dismissed by the Editor. While engaged on a tour for the Pennsylvania State Committee, early in 1900, Hickey had obtained from the Labor News Company, and had sold on the road, books on which he owed something over \$45. The Labor News Company had often tried to collect, but had failed, Hickey claiming that the Pennsylvania State Committee had not settled with him and that he would pay as fast as he could collect from them. This matter had

dragged along until the beginning of 1901, when the manager of the Labor News Company learned that Hickey had drawn from the Pennsylvania State Committee all but \$12 of the \$80 odd that had been due, but still had not made an attempt to square his bill with the Labor News Company. He ignored renewed demands for payment and charges were finally brought before Section New York. Hickey, persisting in an attitude of insolent effrontery, was finally expelled by the Section and then began a series of maneuvers on the part of his friends, foremost among whom was Hugo Vogt, which made what has become known as the "Hickey case" an affair of such magnitude in the history of the Party that it grew away beyond the rather insignificant personality of him who was the prime cause. A regular conspiracy was formed, and the methods resorted to by the set of men who had clubbed together to humiliate Section New York and ram Hickey down the Party's throat, would have put the most case-hardened ward heeler to the blush. They set up the cry, "Hickey must have a trial"—the very thing Hickey did not want—and endeavored to give him that trial before the New York State Committee, on which body they had a clear majority. In order to get the case before this tribunal of their own, they had to overcome the provision of the constitution calling for a general vote of the Section's membership as the first instance of appeal in a subdivided Section. They sought to accomplish this by endeavoring to have the N. E. C. give a ruling to the effect that this provision of the constitution was not mandatory, but optional, of which the appellant might or might not avail himself, according to his pleasure. Twice did they come to the N. E. C. and twice the N. E. C. refused to so rule.

Hickey himself had been a member of the State Committee. His expulsion created a vacancy in that body for the filling of which the Section had been called upon to make nominations, which, when made, had been duly referred to a general vote of the Sections in the State. The conspirators, balked in their efforts to get the case before themselves in the State Committee, now became desperate. The general vote electing a successor to Hickey had closed and that vote was to be canvassed and the result announced. The simple duty of the State Committee was, at its next meeting, to count the votes and seat the candidate having received the highest number of votes, but at that meeting the Hickey majority revealed to what length they were ready to go to accomplish their purpose. They declared "to send out that vote had been a mistake"; that Hickey, although expelled by his Section, and no longer a member of the Party, was still a member of the State Committee until such time as he

had been specifically removed by a general vote of the membership in the State. Having a clear majority in the State Committee, composed of Hugo Vogt, Max Forker, and Patrick Murphy, as against Alfred C. Kuhn and Henry Kuhn, who offered determined resistance, they carried their point and the vote was not counted. Instead, they adopted a resolution to call upon Section New York for a statement of its side of the Hickey case, Hickey to get this statement, answer it, and both to be sent to a general vote. Section New York then took action. At the next meeting of its General Committee, held on August 10, 1901, a resolution was adopted calling upon the N. E. C. to rule on the question, "Whether it was correct or incorrect to hold that a member loses all rights to hold office after his expulsion from the Party." This resolution came before the N. E. C. on August 17, 1901, and was decided in favor of Section New York, by a vote of five to two. One of the two was Peter Fiebiger, a member and the treasurer of the Board of Trustees, the body of which Hugo Vogt was the secretary and which had made the latter the manager of the Daily People. This ruling of the N. E. C. ended the first phase of the Hickey matter, all the moves having been made that could be made within the organization, and at the next meeting of the State Committee the vote was counted and the member who had been elected in Hickey's place seated.

ABOLITION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

With the two acting members of the Board of Trustees, Vogt and Fiebiger, engaged in the work of championing the cause of Hickey, the interests of the Daily People, entrusted to their care did not receive any too much attention.

Proper management there never had been, due to the unfitness of Vogt, but with a good portion of his time absorbed by pro-Hickey intrigues, things were growing worse. The mechanical department was conducted in haphazard fashion. The business department reflected the spirit of the manager and, worse yet, all connection between him and the editorial department had been cut by his conduct in the Hickey affair. It finally came to pass, that the Board declared to the N. E. C. that the Daily People could no longer be maintained, and that to carry the paper along to the election of 1901 was the best that could be done. Prior to this declaration, the manager of the "Abendblatt," the Jewish daily, had made a proposition to consolidate the mechanical departments of the two papers in order to effect savings that would materially reduce the deficit. This proposition the Board opposed unqualifiedly, and, since they were the body in charge, nothing was done, but this did not remove the stress of the situation, and under pressure of that stress, the Board, through Peter Fiebiger, who was also a member of the N. E. C., sprang a proposition to convene a special national convention. That proposition was to be passed upon on November 22, 1901. It was met by a counter-proposition to call for a general vote to so amend the constitution as to abolish the Board of Trustees form of organization, make the "Abendblatt" an official organ, and place the administration of the Party press into the hands of the N. E. C. That proposition was adopted, and the draft of the call was ordered to be presented at the following meeting on November 29. The two Hickeyites on the N. E. C., Fiebiger and Keveney, had opposed the proposition and, naturally, also opposed the call for the vote, which was adopted over their votes. A few days later, under date of December 12, they sent a joint letter of resignation from the N. E. C., which resignations were promptly accepted.

But, to maintain the proper chronology of events, we must go back to the time the N. E. C. took over the Party press. We found things in a deplorable condition. The debt on the plant, on which payments had been postponed over and over again, amounted to about \$11,000; there were numerous other obligations, among them about \$5,000 loaned from Party members, about \$1,600 payroll debt, and about \$1,800 of current business obligations. The circulation of the Daily People had never been large, but that of the Weekly People had sunk to about 7,000, scarcely any efforts having been made to stimulate the organization to work for its enlargement. The mechanical department had been run in slovenly fashion and was ill equipped to do anything but just turn out the paper.

When it had become evident that the general vote on the abolition of the Board of Trustees would end as it did, the N. E. C. had begun to cast about for a competent manager and had made several unsuccessful attempts in that direction. Finally, the Texas State Committee was written to, and asked what they thought of the qualifications of F. D. Lyon, who had become generally known because of the white-capping he had been subjected to at Beaumont. The answer being favorable, the position was offered to Lyon and he accepted. But when the time drew near for the N. E. C. to take hold, it was found that the trial of the assault cases that had grown out of the Beaumont outrage, would prevent Lyon to come in time. Then something happened that was destined to greatly influence subsequent events and give shape to the Kangaroo conspiracy, which, as we know to-day, had already been set on foot. Julian Pierce, hitherto manager of the Labor News Co., came forward to offer himself to the N. E. C. He did so in a letter in which he set forth what he could and would do to conduct the affairs of the

Daily People in conjunction with the Labor News Co. No one else being available, the N. E. C. accepted the offer, and Pierce became the manager. He lost no time in working out his real purpose, or the purpose of those behind him, or with him. The N. E. C., to relieve itself of the details of supervising the management, had appointed a committee of five for this work. The new manager convened this committee and at its very first meeting prevailed upon them to adopt a report to the N. E. C., the gist of which was that an examination of the situation (with which he had been familiar all along) "had taken the heart out of him" as to the possibility of continuing the paper, said report to be adopted by the N. E. C. and sent to the Party Sections. Needless to say that this report was colored as dark as could be, to meet the secret purposes of the conspirators. The situation, by no means a rosy one, was painted in the most dismal hues, all that spoke in favor of the Daily People being slurred over or suppressed, and all that made against unduly exaggerated. The scheme was to put the N. E. C. in an embarrassing position and either force it to endorse and send out the report, which would have meant the finish of the paper, or to have it bear the odium of wishing to keep the membership in the dark as to the real condition of affairs. Having been successful with the managing committee, Pierce probably thought the rest smooth sailing, but he erred. The N. E. C. took up his report, plucked it to pieces and asked for his resignation. The National Secretary was temporarily placed in charge until the arrival of F. D. Lyon a few weeks later, and when he had come, the resolution to consolidate the management of the Daily People and the Labor News Company, that was on the books of the N. E. C. since Pierce had offered himself, was soon taken up and Pierce dismissed. We then entered upon the work of building up, pulling the plant in shape, devoting to that what funds we could spare, and in other ways sought to increase our income by stimulating

advertising and circulation. But we were not long permitted to concentrate our attention upon this work of construction. The conspirators were active. The two streams of enmity to the Party press had met and merged; the Board of Trustees following and the Kangaroos proper went hand in hand, despite the erstwhile antagonism of the latter against the former and we then passed through

THE LAMPOONIST PERIOD

The lampoonists proceeded from the theory that the Party membership, like a lot of children, could be scared into most any absurdity; that to accomplish what they were after it was necessary to paint the N. E. C., the Editor of The People, and the National Secretary in the blackest of colors, charge them with all the crimes on the calendar, and thus stampede the membership into doing what the "Managing Powers" had refused to do, i.e., the destruction of the Party press. It mattered not that the N. E. C. had just been put in charge of that press and could not logically be held responsible for any sins the Board of Trustees may have been guilty of; each and every point which might have been made against the Board, the lampoonists hurled against the N. E. C.

The "truthful" and "honest" Julian Pierce was the first to lead off. He issued a twenty-four page "statement" and sent it broadcast throughout the country, using an old mailing list of the Weekly People, the list of the Labor Library, such other addresses as he had become possessed of by virtue of his office and in this way supplied members and non-members, Party organizations and non-Party organizations, with the utmost "impartiality," going even so far as to send copies to Daily People advertisers, which copies had his circulation "statement" marked in blue pencil. Locally, the effect must at first have been startling in many places, but the good sense of the membership soon asserted itself. The methods employed

Continued on page 3.

ANNUAL PICNIC
Under The Auspices of
Boston Scandinavian Socialist Club

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Saturday Afternoon, July 16th.
Amory Grove, Roxbury

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New York postoffice, July 13, 1900.As far as possible, rejected communica-
tions will be returned, if so desired, and
stamps are enclosed.SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED
STATES:

In 1885.....	2,068
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	56,554
In 1900.....	34,791
In 1904.....	53,763

The day of oppression has endured for
long. It is now nearing the close. The
S. L. P. is on the march.

OUR BIRTHDAY.

[By Sam J. French.]

To-day have we rounded another year,
To-day have we cause for joy
Over the fight maintained
And the strength we've gained,
Which no enemy can destroy.
For, this is the day that we celebrate,
The day we review with cheer
The deeds well done
And the victories won
With each succeeding year.With enemies striking on every side,
By numberless foes beset,
We have held our own
And our strength has grown—We are living and fighting yet.
Our armor is still unscathed,
Our weapons are well in hand,
The future is bright
For a winning fight
'Gainst the bourgeois robber band.And we mean to live, and we mean to
fight—
Defiant, our message spread
To the struggling mass
Of the working class
Exploited and foul misled.
Heralding Liberty's coming,
Spreading the joyful news,
Showing our class
They've a world to gain
And nothing but chains to lose.Filling with terror the tyrant crew
Who live by the workers' toll,
Striking at fakir and traitor
Who share in the robbers' spoil.
Sowing the Seed of Freedom,
Leading the Hosts that Think,
Till the toiler's pain
And the wage-slave's chain
Deep into oblivion sink.For this we have forged us a weapon,
Powerful, strong and true,
In the Smithy of Revolution,
To smite the exploiting crew.
And we shall it, our Daily People,
With pleasure and pride to-day,
Let us give it a cheer
On its Fourth New Year,
And thrice three times Hurrah!
(From the Daily People, July 1.)THE NATIONAL SECRETARY'S RE-
PORT.On other pages of this issue will be
found the report of National Secretary,
Henry Kahn, to the Eleventh National
Convention of the Socialist Labor Party.
This report is worthy of perusal by ev-
ery member, sympathizer and voter of
the Socialist Labor Party and every
student of the Socialist movement in this
country. In its review of the conditions,
conflicts and works, within and without
the Socialist Labor Party, together with
the portrayal of its present status, it is
a mine of information, capable of clearing
up many an obscure point and
crushing many a falsehood, while, at the
same time, indicating the course that
must be pursued in the future. Read
this report. Necessarily lengthy, it will
 repay the necessary perusal."The war," says Senator Clark, copper
king of Montana, "has created a demand
for copper." The Senator, as his tones
indicate, is correspondingly happy. He
does not, however, appear to be aware
that his happiness discloses the essence
of modern war, which is to furnish
markets and make the senatorial copper and
industrial kings happy by the resultant
demand. To the moralist and the hu-
manitarian this fact may appear decided-
ly mean and repulsive, but then, such
is capitalism, that morality and hu-
manity don't count when markets are
necessary."The war," says Senator Clark, copper
king of Montana, "has created a demand
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manitarian this fact may appear decided-
ly mean and repulsive, but then, such
is capitalism, that morality and hu-
manity don't count when markets are
necessary.Purplicus is said to have fared badly.
He's fortunate to have fallen into the
hands of a bandit. Just think of what
would have happened to him had he
the Colorado militia gotten a hold of him!

FORGING TO THE FRONT.

The declaration by Adj.-Gen. Sherman
M. Bell and his "Citizens' Alliance,"
echoed with gusto by the capitalist
press of the land, to the effect that, what
he is in arms against is, not Unionism,
but Socialism, should not be allowed to
lose its real or instructive significance.
There is great danger of this. The
natural indignation at the sight of a prin-
ciple, which, like "free trade" or "pro-
tection," has become the platform of a
recognized political party, being pro-
nounced under the ban and fit for the
target of rifles that are held in the
hands of a set of men who pre-eminently
claim to be the guardians of "law and
order" and democracy—the natural in-
dignation at such a sight is apt to cause
a more important, because more en-
couraging, feature of the performance to
be overlooked.In the Eighteenth Brumaire," Marx
characterizes the intellectual hollowness
and helplessness of the dominant ele-
ment in the French bourgeois revolution
of 1848, with the following pithy sen-
tence:"Whether the question was the right
of petition or the duty on wine, the
liberty of the press or free trade, clubs
or municipal laws, protection of individual
freedom or the regulation of na-
tional economy, the slogan returns over
again, the theme is monotonously the
same, the verdict is ever ready and un-
changed—SOCIALISM! Even bourgeois
liberalism is pronounced Socialistic; So-
cialistic, alike is pronounced popular
education; and, likewise Socialistic, na-
tional financial reform. It was So-
cialistic to build a railroad where already
a canal was; and IT WAS SOCIALIS-
TIC TO DEFEND ONESELF WITH A
STICK WHEN ATTACKED WITH A
SWORD."That the conduct of the Colorado
miners, who have been defending them-
selves with a stick when attacked with
a sword should be pronounced "So-
cialistic" and believed to be "Socialistic"
by the bourgeois powers of America is
an encouraging feature in the general
lay of the present situation. Like the
French bourgeois of 1848, whose ossified
mind was insensibly being permeated
by the knowledge that another idea
than Capitalism, to wit, Socialism was
rising; who were too intellectually hol-
low to grasp what the new idea really
was; but who instinctively felt the
ground slip from under them and realized
their own helplessness, the modern Amer-
ican bourgeois has but one monotonous
verdict and slogan—the bugaboo of
"Socialism!" True enough the circum-
stance reveals our American capitalists
of 1904 to be just 50 years behind their
French cousins of to-day. But that
means progress. They were further be-
hind eighteen years ago. They are mak-
ing progress. They will yet forge to the
front—where the Social Revolution
wants and needs them.SPEAKER CANNON'S "SIMPLE
TALE.""The trust buster who is always
'busting' the trust by word, but never
by action, would lead the people to
believe that all the production of the
country is under the direction of un-
lawful combinations. Behold, how a
simple tale shall put that down. The
statistics carefully and honestly gathered
by the government show that
competition is, after all, the great
force that regulates production and
the price of all the products. If you
take all the alleged trusts' properties
engaged in production in the year 1900,
they employed only 8 per cent. of the
factory labor, and had 14 per cent. of
the factory product of the United
States; while the independent factories
employed 92 per cent. of the labor and
had 86 per cent. of the factory product
of the country."—From speech of
Speaker Cannon, chairman of the Re-
publican National Convention.The Socialist is not a "trust buster." The
Socialist believes the trust an evolution
and the forerunner of Socialism. The
Socialist is, therefore, interested in
the trust, and he wishes the whole truth
told about the trust, so that it may be
understood, lest the gravest social blun-
ders be committed. Is Speaker Cannon's
"simple tale" the whole truth about the
trust? May not the worthy presiding
officer of the House and the Republican
convention have overlooked some facts
in his simplicity? Let us see.Mr. John Moody, in his book "The
Truth About The Trusts," gives a class-
ified list of ALL THE TRUSTS in the United
States at the beginning of the year.
There are 318 important industrial trusts
in the country, controlling 5,288 plants,
and having a total capitalization out-
standing of \$7,246,342,533. There are eight
leading franchise trusts (telephone and
telegraph) controlling 136 plants and
having a capitalization of \$628,700,500.
There are also 103 leading gas, electric
light and street railway consolidations,
making a total of 111 important franchises
trusts, controlling 1,386 plants and
having a total outstanding capitalizationof \$3,735,456,075. There are six great
steam railroad groups with a total cap-
italization of \$9,017,086,907. There are
also ten allied independent systems hav-
ing a capitalization of \$380,277,000.The grand total of all trusts, indus-
trial, franchise and transportation is
\$20,379,162,511, or ONE FIFTH OF THE
WEALTH, NOT CAPITAL, OF THE
COUNTRY.In commenting on these stupendous
figures, at the time of their publication,
"The Wall Street Journal," after pointing
out that this capitalization is merely
nominal, and does not, therefore, re-
present the actual market value of the
stocks and bonds of these trusts, goes on
to say:"But even accepting the nominal cap-
italization of these trusts as represent-
ing their financial strength, it appears
that there is outside of the control of the
trusts \$80,000,000,000 of independent
wealth. In other words, the independent
wealth of the United States, as compared
with the trust wealth, is as four to one.
But it should not be overlooked that the
trust wealth is the most important,
in that it controls all the other wealth.
The trusts are in control of the trans-
portation facilities of the country. They
are practically in control of its banking
facilities, and they control its main in-
dustrial systems. Through control of the
banks, the railroad, and the leading in-
dustrial companies, the directors of these
trusts practically direct the business of
the country, and when it is said that
of the \$20,000,000,000, of trust capital
in the United States, upwards of \$1,-
000,000,000 is held by one family, and
that the greater amount is represented
by a group of perhaps a dozen capitalists,
one gets some conception of the immense
power which is wielded in this country
by a few capitalists."Mr. John Moody and "The Wall Street
Journal" are not "trust busters." "The
Wall Street Journal" is an undisguised
admirer of the presidential candidate
nominated by the convention over which
Speaker Cannon presided. The testimony
they give is that of friends of the trust.
This testimony shows that the trust,
like a well-organized army, occupies all
the strategic points, and therefrom con-
trols competition and production. It
shows that Speaker Cannon's "simple
tale" resembles a simple falsehood, calcu-
lated to make light of the trust problem
for campaign purposes, an object un-
worthy any man alive to the great social
dangers arising from the misrepresen-
tation of social problems.

HAPPY, YET DULL DEMOCRATS.

The Republican cue, just now, is to
claim that wages rise and are rising and
have been rising. It is the Democratic
cue, just now, to claim that wages are
falling. But even when the Democracy
is out, it being a capitalist party, it
must hold to the view that the natural
trend of wages is to soar upwards. This
being thus whichever of the two parties
is out declares that wages are taking a
plunge down, and, of course, that the
other's incumbency is the cause. Accord-
ingly, the Republican party had better
quickly hush up the threatened strike in
the ready-made clothing industry, and
above all hush up the revelations that
the strike is starting.The fact for instance is being re-
vealed that in the clothing industry
wages have been steadily declining since
1840. True enough the ominous develop-
ment has proceeded along racial lines,
but that is only an incident. The original
operatives, the reports show were
driven out by the Jews, but were so
driven out because the Jews worked
cheaper; and now, we are told, the Jews
are themselves being crowded by the
Italians, because these work cheaper
still. In each case, the report explains,
the wages were high to those who did the
displacing, but were low compared with
the wages received by the displaced, or
with "the American standard."The nationality vein that accompanies
this particular development downward
should not mislead. It is a mere in-
cident. The permanent feature is that
higher paid men are being steadily dis-
placed by lower paid ones; and the re-
ports in this particular trade explain
why. The reason is not that this or that
nationality is inherently cheaper, and
likes cheapness, but that, with the im-
proved machinery and subdivision of la-
bor, the "trick of the trade" is quickly
learned.The Socialist is not a "trust buster." The
Socialist believes the trust an evolution
and the forerunner of Socialism. The
Socialist is, therefore, interested in
the trust, and he wishes the whole truth
told about the trust, so that it may be
understood, lest the gravest social blun-
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Italians, because these work cheaper
still. In each case, the report explains,
the wages were high to those who did the
displacing, but were low compared with
the wages received by the displaced, or
with "the American standard."The statement of the scientist that
even hopiosoids are useful, shows that
there is still hope for the Kangaroo of
the species of bogus Socialists.

AND NOW IT IS BARNABY.

At the inquest over the Slocum dis-
aster, Captain Van Schaik being on the
stand, this neat and terse interrogatory
took place:Question.—Did Mr. Barnaby ever visit
or inspect the steamer?

Answer.—No.

Mr. Barnaby is the President of the
Knickerbocker Steamship Company that
owned the money-making death-trap of
the steamer General Slocum.On a previous occasion, it is now about
fourteen years ago, another disaster, the
New York Central Railroad Tunnel disaster,
took place. The directors, Depew among
the lot, were indicted, but the
indictments were quashed on the ground
that "there was nothing to show that
they knew" the condition in which the
train was; etc.One or two years ago, the Baldwin
Locomotive Works were very much in
evidence. Non-union and paying wages
according to the premium plan, it was
attacked by the labor organizations in
the machine and metal trades. There-
upon there appeared in the capitalist
press a number of articles evidently in-
spired, descriptive of the Baldwin Lo-
comotive Works. Its high position in
the capitalist world was set forth, so
too were its world renown, growing out
of the high technical and mechanical
skill employed, the great and growing
wages paid the latter, its steady em-
ployment, promotion, etc. The curtailment
now brings the Baldwin Locomotive
Works once more to the fore, ex-
hibiting "the great and growing wages,"
etc., in all their pristine beauty, and
enabling the comparison above referred
to, to be made.A news despatch, dated Philadelphia,
July 1, and evidently emanating from
the Baldwin Locomotive Works, says:
"Last week the number of men em-
ployed at Baldwin's was 9,272, and the
weekly pay-roll \$16,000. In December
last, 15,000 men were employed, and
earned about \$250,000 a week. Some
2,500 are employed at the Lewistown
Works. Samuel M. Vauclain, super-
intendent, says that the present force will
be reduced about 400 men each week
until bedrock is reached, but should
orders be received sufficient force will be
kept to handle them."The resolution of the executive com-
mittee of the American Federation of
Labor to aid the Western Federation of
Miners is a suspicious one. Adopted
after the cowardly act of Sam Gompers
in hiding at the critical moment, and the
perfidious course of the A. F. of L. in
Colorado, had been expressed by the
Socialist Labor Party, which aroused
working class indignation against the
A. F. of L., the resolution is a tub to the
whale. It only serves to recall that on
November 14, 1903, the A. F. of L. in
convention assembled in Boston, in a
resolution pledged its moral and financial
support to the Western Miners, even
going so far as to appropriate \$1,000 in
conformity therewith. Yet in June,
1904, the President of the A. F. of L.
cannot be found to utter a word and
protest while those miners are being
shot in the back. At the same time its
members in Colorado are exempted from
the military proscriptions of General
Bell and praised as models worthy,
the support of bull-penners and the emulation
of the working class. Look out for the
A. F. of L. History repeats itself quite
often among the Gompers' crew of labor
traitors.The rough rider President's orders
directing the Bureau of Commerce and
Labor to investigate the Colorado out-
rages, like Gompers' resolution to aid
the Western Federation of Miners, will
deceive no one. It is plainly a move to off-
set the resentment aroused by the rough
rider's failure to intervene in the miners'
behalf, in accordance with the appeal
of Secretary Haywood, just as the Gom-
pers' resolution is intended to parry
the effect of the condemnation resulting
from his cowardly conduct in hiding
while the miners were being shot down.Well, it is to laugh—the news that
8 beet sugar companies in Michigan, cap-
italized at \$6,500,000 and controlled by
the Havemeyer interests, will be merged
into one for the purpose of securing
economy. It was once confidently pre-
dicted that the competition of the beet
sugar industry would bust the sugar
trust. And now the spectacle is pre-
sented of the sugar trust interests orga-
nizing a trust in the beet sugar in-
dustry! Of course, the other companies
will have to trustify too, or go out of
business! Well, this trust "busting" busi-
ness is certainly a droll proceeding!Business men in all parts of the country,
anxious to preserve their funds intact,
are enforcing anti-racing rules among
their employees. This is rather inconsistent
considering that the funds that the business men
take from their employees, in the shape of profits,
are also spent on racing. The business men
evidently believe that gambling on races
is a luxury that only the capitalists can afford.The State Labor Employment Bureau's
report that it is overrun with applicants
for work in the Kansas wheat fields,
is commended to the man who asserts
"every man who wants to work can get
a job if he wants one."THE CURTAILMENT—
SOME THINGS IT
DISCLOSES.The curtailment now going on in in-
dustry, transportation, etc., is not with-
out its value to the working class in
the facts that it discloses, especially
when those facts are taken in compari-
son with other facts. This conten-
tion is typically illustrated in the case
of the curtailment in the Baldwin Lo-
comotive Works, located at Philadelphia,
Pa. This corporation is one of the
largest and most perfectly equipped
in the world. Its capital runs well into
the millions.One or two years ago, the Baldwin
Locomotive Works were very much in
evidence. Non-union and paying wages
according to the premium plan, it was
attacked by the labor organizations in
the machine and metal trades. There-
upon there appeared in the capitalist
press a number of articles evidently in-
spired, descriptive of the Baldwin Lo

CORRESPONDENCE

FOR CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN AT ONE UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS. BEHIND THESE OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS, THESE OTHERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED.

COLLEGE BOYS FAIL TO DOWN S. L. P.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The first open-air meeting of the season was held here in New Brunswick at Albany and George streets last Saturday evening. The meeting was held under the auspices of D. A. 4, S. T. & L. A., and was a success although rather exciting one. A number of young roughs, college boys from Trenton, happened along and a bunch of about 70 of them did their best to spoil the meeting, but failed and were finally compelled to desist.

A large crowd gathered when Charles Sperie, of Somerville, opened the meeting and explained the aims of the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. and spoke on the necessity of organizing on the political and economic fields. R. Katz, of Trenton, followed with an able exposition of S. L. P. principles. Then John J. Kinneally, of New York, took the stand and proceeded to lay down the principles and objects of the S. L. P. and the Alliance in his usual vigorous manner. While Kinneally was speaking the gang of youths referred to tried hard to drown his voice by singing college songs and yelling, but Kinneally kept right on and held the attention of the audience despite the efforts of the rowdies. The meeting was carried out to a triumphant finish.

Not a policeman was to be seen or found for the whole time. A number of Weekly Peoples were sold and a quantity of literature distributed. Seven names were secured as a nucleus for an S. L. P. Section. Frank Zierer, New Brunswick, N. J., June 27.

THE IRISH BRIGADE ON THE FIRING LINE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Irish Brigade was on the firing line last night at Clarkson and Hudson streets, and the Long Toms of the Socialist Labor Party opened fire and raked the capitalist system fore and aft. Comrade Quinlan opened the meeting and introduced Comrade Pat Walsh, who spoke on the development of machinery and the political parties of the capitalist class, and the party of the working class, the S. L. P. Comrade C. Kemp of Hamilton, Canada, was the next speaker. He contrasted the capitalist system of to-day with the Socialist Republic of the morrow. Comrade Robert Downes next dwelt on the platform of the Socialist Labor Party, and the revolutions that have taken place in the last two centuries.

The remarks of the speakers were well taken by the wage slaves at the meeting. The leaflets, "Why Strikes Are Lost," and "Where Wages Come From," were distributed and a few pamphlets sold at the meeting.

Campaign Committee, First, Third and Fifth Assembly Districts, Manhattan. New York, June 29.

GOOD WORK ON SECOND AVENUE

To the Daily and Weekly People:—An open-air meeting was held in the Tenth Assembly District Tuesday evening, at the corner of Second Avenue and Fifth street, with Julius Eck, of Hoboken, and Wm. Blisbarrow of St. Louis, as the speakers. In spite of the threatening weather, the meeting turned out quite successful. Seventeen books were sold and one man filled out an application blank for membership and paid the initiation fee. A liberal quantity of leaflets were distributed.

It was the first time the writer has had the pleasure of hearing Comrade Blisbarrow speak. He is one but of a very few that does justice to the subject. On this occasion he began by explaining the class struggle between the propertless working class and that small class which owns all the means of production, the capitalist class. "The wage worker," he said, "must go to a capitalist for employment and submit to the capitalist's terms." He showed how the capitalists in addition to thus controlling the workers by their economic power, also control the workers by controlling the political power. He said that the workers must also organize on the political field the same as the capitalists have done; the workers must get politics, working class politics, into their unions.

The audience was reminded that in Colorado the miners who are organized in the Western Federation of Miners, an organization which is not affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, were thrown into bull-pens and deported while the A. F. of L. men were declared to be all right.

Blisbarrow said the Western Federation of Miners was considered a dangerous organization because it had declared for political action and had broken away from the reactionary A. F. of L. which teaches workingmen to keep politics out of their unions.

I have been a member of this so-called Socialist party for over two years, but

cannot understand this move. The truth will out sometime, and why not have it now? The A. F. of L., or pure and simple unions, with their teachings coming from the capitalist source are the enemy of the workers; they cause discontent among the workers and keeps the class divided; they bring suffering upon many workers, and their families and force prejudices to exist in the mind of all humanity by their strikes, which are not a success, according to their own statements.

My own idea is this: A union must be formed which will have for its object only one issue—the political issue—and this union strike at the ballot box and there only, for Socialism, and true freedom, and Socialists I believe should not talk in public upon any other question more than is absolutely necessary to explain the reason for the political movement.

If it is impossible to gain anything from an economic effort until the political channel is opened, why not go to work on the political channel and merely do the best we can at present on the economic field individually?

I am willing to admit the unions have at times done some good, so does charity do good, but both are not needed under normal conditions and neither the union or charity are able to meet the demands under this capitalist system, and both are gradually becoming weaker as the capitalist system gets stronger. They are both failures, so let us stop working for them and turn our whole attention toward the real issue (political Socialism), which, when gained, will give us an opportunity to develop economic Socialism or co-operation, or industrial brotherhood. Whatever is done let us have one thing to do and all of us know what that one thing is, and then go to work doing it. Let it be voting for Socialism as the enemy of the capitalist system.

F. H. B.
Sioux City, Ia., June 20.

GUILD UNIONISM LURED FROM FRYING PAN INTO FIRE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The third open-air meeting of the season under the auspices of the French Branch of Section New York, S. L. P., was held on Tuesday evening. This meeting, like its predecessors, was a thorough success.

The interest taken by the French speaking workers in those meetings is best shown by the sale of literature, about fifty pamphlets having so far been sold and twenty names secured for the Branch.

A. F.
New York, June 29.

THE NECESSITY OF ORGANIZING THE WHOLE WORKING CLASS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The letters in The People from the Socialists of Omaha in Sunday's issue and F. H. B., Sioux City, Ia., in to-day's, have a good ring about them, still evil associations are dangerous, as the Socialist Labor Party members have often found, and resolved to sever all connection with fakirs and crooks of all kinds and stop baring from within; then organizing a trade union in consistent keeping with real Socialism.

The two letters are very similar on the economic arm, both ignore the necessity of class conscious trade unionism.

What are we to do with all the minors—women, youth and immigrants who have no franchise (vote)?

The working class is the working class, those who have no vote as well as those who have, and how can the class be organized if only the voters are to be considered? Would it not be wise to organize all in the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, even to the extent of giving the immigrants the opportunity of applying for membership while at port of landing, thereby maintaining the solidarity of labor, and making the seab impossible? Then, and not till then, will the working class be an intelligent power.

Fraternally,
R. Berdan.
Paterson, N. J., June 27.

WILL THE SPEAKER PLEASE ANSWER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As I am a sympathizer and a reader of the Daily People, I take the liberty to ask for information. I heard one of your speakers a few years ago explaining the difference between the 8 and 9 hour day. He pointed out in the 9 hour day that the bricklayers received \$4 per day for laying 1,000 bricks, while in the 8 hour day they received \$4.50 for laying 1,500 bricks a day.

Please inform me whether my statement is correct, as I have to prove it to one of the Volkszeitung's gang.

V. F.
Brooklyn, N. Y., July 1.

TRUTH TOO MUCH FOR FAKIRS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The pure and simple of the American Federation of Labor and the fake Socialists of South Bend, showed their animosity toward an S. L. P. man who dare speak the truth recently.

About one week ago the brewery workers called a special meeting to organize a brewery started there about three months ago. I happened to be present when one of the fakirs told the men there that they would fit the South Bend Brewing Association, if they would not compel their help to join the Brewery Workers' Union of America, and put the union label on their products. I showed them what the manager of the South Bend Brewing Association had done last summer when the plumbers went out on strike, and were on strike all summer, only to be defeated in the end. This enraged the pure and simple and the fake Socialists. They ordered

me out of the room and would not accept my application for membership. Not only did they do that, but they go to the manager and get me fired out of my job. Of course, I know well what a job is—something that I never begged for since I have been old enough to earn my own livelihood.

The pure and simple and fake Socialists, who cause men to be discharged for telling the truth, are Pete Bouscavage, A. Anderson and Chas. Cizler.

Fraternally, Charles Brenner.
South Bend, Ind., June 26.

RHODE ISLAND'S SUCCESSFUL EXCURSION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The annual excursion of the Socialist Labor Party of Rhode Island took place last Sunday, and I herewith beg leave to report it an all-round success, in attendance and weather conditions. The steamer New Shorchnan is chartered to carry 875 passengers. We had the limit and left 250 or more persons on the dock. The verdict of all is that it was the best excursion that they had ever attended.

I sold twenty Sunday Peoples, one Merrie England and six "What Means This Strike?"

Who is willing to start a Press Club here, to push the party press and literature? Carney,
Literary Agent, Section Providence.
Providence, R. I., June 23.

OPEN LETTER TO THE O. R. T.

To the Board of Directors, O. R. T.:—Inasmuch as statements against the interests of the working class were made openly by the President at the conclusion of our meeting—statements against the character of a revolutionary organization which I refuted at the time—the Secretary and others of the Jersey City local have taken it upon themselves to suspend without giving notice of trial either to the men along the line or myself. The \$500 insurance is not the issue, but during the 9 weeks that I am by your rules entitled to a hearing I demand the same of you. Change the existing state of affairs, arrange a meeting at your convenience, as that was the question promulgated at the open Trenton joint meeting—also as the Telegrapher of last month contained an article from the A. F. of L. saying that parties who do not recognize a labor paper are traitors to the labor movement. I presented prepared statement on request to the commissioner; further than that I have not heard directly on the matter.

In reference to the outlined attempt in the Jersey City notes in to-day's Telegrapher, it shows plainly that corrupt existing factors threaten a more intense state of slavery to the working class. I would state that I object to the cowardly attempt of a few individuals to advance their own interests at the expense of other members—apropos of the proposed bill to license Telegraphers—as they receive too little now of the wealth which Labor alone creates and of which Labor alone should receive the full product of, as there should be but one class in this country, that is nominally ours, and that is the working class.

As the Telegraphers officially have declared for economic action alone, and as it has been officially endorsed by the Journal controllers, it should be clear to all that a license affair is a trap and would be utilized by the ruling class and their tools to forestall even such a half action as a strike would allow. Take for instance the late attempt of another body which goes it alone in the aristocracy of labor category, viz., the Marine Engineers, whose licenses were revoked as fast as they declared themselves as men unable to stand the strain imposed by a class upholding a rotten degradation to the members of the working class able to work.

In the event of being trapped by a license bill, we, as members of the working class, would be unable to prove the contention mentioned "that Labor is prior to and independent of Capital"—as Lincoln said!

The working class should receive the full product of their labor and abolish wage slavery in order to live as humane beings. Labor has not yet one candidate in political office from whom they could demand even a dog tag, so no matter if the worthy Vice President did lose his audience at the open meeting when he claimed we should go up by ourselves, so the company would regard us as they do the engineers, etc. But there must be no aristocracy of labor in the labor world. The concern of one must be the concern of all. We should banish the sense of fear and assist an intelligent labor movement to overthrow that idle class who work the workers, and, at their option, condemn millions of workers to lay off, their families to misery. There is plenty for all, so join the organizations of the working class, the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance on the economic field, and the Socialist Labor Party on the political—organizations to work harmoniously together to abolish private ownership in the means of life, which alone can make us a free people.

A. J. Boland.
Jersey City, June 27.

LETTER-BOX OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

[NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANYONE LETTER. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.]

D. E., RACINE, WIS.—If what you have in your mind is that Marx is a back-number, say so. You may be right. Marx was no god and infallible. Later genius may overthrow him. But, if that is what you mean, come out frankly. We shall then know what you are at; and if you are right, your light will illuminate us. This thing of talking "class struggle" and holding up Marx, and then preaching anti-Marxism can only redound to the injury of anti-Marxism—supposing it to be a dispensation new and right.

D. J., NEW YORK.—Why, of course, the "Volkszeitung" will keep up boomerang the "Call." The "Volkszeitung" needs the money. What difference does it make to the Volkszeitung Corporation whether it raises the funds directly for itself, or under the false pretense of a "Call"?

B. B., BOSTON, MASS.—There is no fight in the platform of the Socialist, alias Social Democratic party, except as the utterances fight with each other.

K. C., CHICAGO, ILL.—The Single Tax is to-day a whimsey—where it is not a mere fig-leaf to cover political job-hunting.

W. McC., SEATTLE, WASH.—The addressee of the letter is sufficiently warned by it without publication. If the person therein referred to ripens into the expected rotten apple, that will be time enough for enlightening the rest of The People readers.

D. A., CHICAGO, ILL.—The curse of the Gomperses is first class asset for any bona fide party of Labor.

F. C., JERSEY CITY, N. J.—First, Genevieve of the "Silver Cross" in Sue's "Proletarian Family," cannot run through the whole of the series. Did you not read the introductions to the several stories, especially to the story now going through the Daily People? Each story is presumably written by a person living in successive generations. Genevieve is supposed to have written the "Silver Cross"; and she dies in due time. And is referred to as dead in several subsequent stories, supposed to be written by a person living in successive generations.

F. B., BRIDGEPORT, CT.—The Socialist who talks about "spoiling the spoiler" must be in a bantering mood. Socialism is not a raid. It is a war for re-vindication.

H. F., NEW YORK.—The "Appeal to Reason" is owned and controlled by J. A. Wayland, whose name it flies at the forward masthead.

W. W., NEW YORK.—Whether Niedermeyer is anything like the crook Kurzenkabe, one-time chief of the Brewers' Union? No. He is an innocent, jovial-looking Kangaroo, too green and sleepy to know the snuff that his superior officers are up to.

D. U., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—There is nothing in the Volkszeitung Corporation argument against the proclamation of Local Omaha of the S. P. That "Volkszeitung" and "Worker" crew are, even normally, incapable of thinking, let alone in a case of this sort. And as to American affairs it is simply ridiculous. Their Chicago platform distinctly pretends of the idea of liberty and self-government IN WHICH THE NATION WAS BORN. And that blunder fully bears out the Omaha local's contention. While the Franklins of that day, being head and shoulders above the rest, uttered wise utterances, the rest were utterly bourgeois, and it was in their idea that "the nation was born." Local Omaha did not falsify at all. The platform being the product of a pupitree's pen cannot choose but be loose-jointed. As stated above to B. B., Boston, the platform's utterances fight with each other.

H. J. S., LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Was not receipt acknowledged in "matters received?" Will be published in due time.

F. T. P., KANSAS CITY, MO.—The little finger of one capitalist will ever prove thicker than the loins of a hundred embattled farmers, whether their conflict be on the economic or the political field. Be not deceived by the appearance of sporadic political storms. They, no more than atmospheric storms, are manifestations of normal conditions.

D. J., JERSEY CITY, N. J.—There is no bottom to the doctrine of "standing by the fakir while educating the working class." The standing by the fakir is itself an "education"—to the undoing of the off-looking rank and file.

H. S. A., DENVER, COLO.—Absolutely correct conclusions can be drawn only

"THE PARTY PRESS"

S. L. P. Illustrated Booklet a Work of Pictorial and Typographical Art.

The illustrated booklet, "The Party Press," is now ready for delivery. A work of typographical art, in well designed red covers, containing 32 pages of first-class half-tone views and reading matter, it ought to be in the hands of every friend and sympathizer of the Party press, especially those who have never seen the Daily People, and are desirous of getting a good idea of it and the plants and offices under its roof.

The half-tones show various views of The Daily People Building, The Daily People and Arbetaren printing plants, editors and editorial rooms, "the Circus" reporter, the Labor News Company, and the offices of Section New York, the S. T. & L. A., and the national secretary of the S. L. P., together with their per-

sonnel, and facsimile copies of the Daily People, the Arbetaren, and the Socialistic Arbeiter Zeitung. The reading matter consists of an autobiographical sketch of Daniel De Leon, the editor of the Daily and Weekly People, and brief sketches of the history, aims and accomplishments of the Daily and Weekly People, the Arbetaren and the Socialistic Arbeiter Zeitung. This booklet, which owes its inspiration and pictorial success to Comrade Harry Teichlauf, who is an able photographer, is a fitting commemoration of the fourth anniversary of the Daily People, now here.

All who have seen this booklet declare it one of the most interesting documents on the Party press issued, as it enables one to form a better conception of that institution than columns of descriptive matter and figures. Twenty-five copies of the booklet were sold at the Johnson lecture in Brooklyn in a very short time. Get a copy and see for yourself. Price, 25 cents.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
2-6 New Reade Street,
New York City.

L. A. 273, LAWRENCE, MASS.
Local Alliance 373, S. T. & L. A., Lawrence, Mass., has elected the following officers for the ensuing term: Organizer, Robert Lawson; financial secretary, Paul Vandorne; recording secretary, Gustave Salomey; treasurer, Joseph Bedard; auditors, Adolph Deconinek, Gustave Annoot and Julius Vandorne; agitation committee, Paul Vandorne, Gustave Salomey, Joseph Bedard, Julius Vandorne, Phidley Bedard, Emile Mailloot and Robert Lawson.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe.

number of letters have come in since the publication of the address on "The Burning Question of Trades Unionism" corroborative of the point therein made with regard to the guild, and thereby bourgeois, nature of pure and simple unionism, and its consequent inevitable trend to divide the working class. The correspondents have taken the cue from the interesting facts that clinched the point and that were adduced in the first of the two answers; and they furnished additional evidence from their own Unions, such as high dues, clause restricting the number of apprentices and prohibitive initiation fees. But, only one of these correspondents, F. J. of Yonkers, furnishes the exact documentary language that establishes the guild feature of the concern. Now, then, a very valuable article, possibly pamphlet, is suggested by these letters. Let all our correspondents who can furnish us with an accurate and documentary statement of guild views and practices in their unions, accurately stating where the evidence can be verified. They will be published in a row. Such a document will be an eye-opener.

A. B., OMAHA, NEB.—Why the so-called Socialist party does not call it self the "New Jeffersonian party?" For a very good reason. Such a name would be nearer to the truth, and the true light is not that in which its private owners care to be seen. Redeem the redeemable.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—The address of Eugene Creed is 1772 Amsterdam avenue, New York city.

